

# JORDAN TIMES

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## Brezhnev blames it on NATO

MOSCOW, Oct. 25 (R). — Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev today called for a reconciliation between Syria and the Palestinians and driving forces in Lebanon.

In a wide-ranging policy speech to a plenary session of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, the Kremlin leader blamed the Lebanese on the United States and other NATO powers. I said they were backed by Israel.

## Ford launches barnstorming campaign across U.S.

AND, Oregon, Oct. 25 (R). President Ford barnstormed the United States today with two new opinion polls forecasting his Democratic challenger, Jimmy Carter, was the favorite to win next week's pre-election.

The magazine poll gave Mr. Ford a 48 to 44 per cent lead, while this margin is considered sufficient to guarantee victory in the number of voters decided.

The week magazine reported state-by-state analysis showed Mr. Carter likely to win 308 in the electoral college, 30 more than needed to win the presidency on Nov. 2.

Ford today campaigned in western states before flying to San Francisco, 3,500 kms east to Pittsburgh.

The tactic was reminiscent of Truman's long rail journeys campaign-closing tour of the United States which he hopes it will bring him the same success. He already predicted he will be the biggest upset victory of the century.

President Ford is also fighting with 14 special television radio programmes which are worth \$4 million, and he gave the state night in California. He is expected to win votes in California, the most populous state, where he had a "healing" in the United States following the divisive Watergate scandal which led to Richard Nixon's resignation.

President Ford argued, too, that strengthened prospects for lasting peace and had brougnt prosperity.

Ford will not return to Washington until election day. His television shows and eight programmes are designed to give him even more exposure in travels.

The campaign draws to a President Ford is stressing his accomplishments rather than attacking Mr. Carter, who is day resting at his home in Georgia, before launching his final campaign tomorrow.

## Police bomb station in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 25 (R). — Militants in Soweto townships have bombed a police station and a railway line and are calling a boycott of white-owned shops and bars and Christmas festivities.

At the same time another bomb blew up a section of railway track nearby.

Students are calling for austerity and mourning until the end of the year as a mark of respect for people killed by police. The call came in pamphlets handed out in Soweto yesterday when police opened fire on a 4,000 strong crowd of funeral mourners. The official death toll rose today to four and many more were wounded.

Riot police today opened fire on about 1,000 people at the Guguletu black township near Cape Town. Police said an African youth was shot dead and a dozen were wounded.

They opened fire as the crowd left a church hall meeting and marched on Guguletu police station, a spokesman said.

About 380 Africans have been killed, according to unofficial counts, since the first black demonstrations last June against the government's racial separation policies.

The student pamphlets, in English and Sotho, said: "The year 1976 should go down into our history as the year of mourning, the year that flowed with sweat, blood and tears for our liberation."

They said there should be no Christmas shopping, no Christmas presents, parties or drinking in illegal drinking dens -- (shebeens). "We cannot find happiness in death. We cannot celebrate," the pamphlets said.

## Cairo summit tackles questions of Arab peace force, south Lebanon

CAIRO, Oct. 25 (AFP). — An emergency summit of 19 Arab nations began here today by approving the terms of a four-day-old ceasefire in war-torn Lebanon, worked out at a mini-summit a week ago, and then prepared to tackle the question of a 30,000-strong Arab peace-keeping force to be sent there. The summit -- which included 14 heads of state -- also agreed to consider ceasefire violations in southern Lebanon, after Egyptian President Anwar Sadat warned Israel against making moves in the region.

An official communique issued after the opening three-hour session said the participants approved the terms of the ceasefire. Only Iraq voted against the agreement, which includes a provision for the Arab League contingent to supervise the truce.

The bulk of the force is expected to come from the Syrian units which entered Lebanon four months ago. This reportedly encountered some Iraqi opposition.

The proposed Arab peace force was discussed at a separate meeting here tonight of Arab foreign ministers.

The foreign ministers meeting broke up after two hours without any major announcement.

An official statement said a committee had been set up to draft a final conference statement. It is made up of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab League secretariat.

The statement would be submitted to the heads of state when they meet tomorrow for what is expected to be the final session of the summit.

The foreign ministers will meet beforehand tomorrow, the statement said, implying that not all points had yet been agreed.

An Arab League spokesman said this afternoon that Libya, the sole absentee from the opening session, would attend when the conference resumes tomorrow.

Former Libyan Foreign Minister Abdul Mun'im Al Houni took part in a foreign ministers' agenda drafting session later and was expected to represent Libya at the summit tomorrow.

Opening the conference, the first full emergency summit in the Arab League's 31-year history, President Sadat urged Lebanon's warring parties to settle their differences at a round table conference.

## King Hussein confers with Arab leaders

CAIRO, (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein continued his extensive contacts here today with Arab heads of state gathered here for the Eighth Arab Summit Conference on Lebanon.

He met with Egypt's President Anwar Sadat, the Emir of Kuwait and Lebanese President Elias Sarkis.

He also received the Emir of Bahrain this morning, the Mauritanian president and leader of North Yemen's Command Council in the evening.

The King will confer with King Khalid of Saudi Arabia tomorrow.

Last night, King Hussein and Syrian President Hafez Assad conferred at the Hilton Hotel.

The King yesterday also received at his Hilton suite the President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, and the Arab League representative in Lebanon, Dr. Hassan Sabri Al Kholi.

He called on the Arab World to rally behind the Palestine Liberation Organisation, represented at the conference by its chairman, Yasser Arafat.

The ceasefire, Mr. Sadat went on, was "a fundamentally political decision which no one has the right to question".

The Palestinian-leftist alliance in Lebanon warned at the weekend that it would resume fighting in all parts of the country, Beirut included. If the rightist offensive in southern Lebanon continued. The offensive is seen as an attempt to force the government to renegotiate the 1969 Cairo accord and has the admitted help of Israeli forces.

The Egyptian president said "Our enemies in Israel and elsewhere would be making an error of calculation if they believed that they were sowing in the Arab nation the seed of discord and defeatism."

Mr. Sadat said "We will all oppose with strength and vigour any move that Israel might make in southern Lebanon."

President Elias Sarkis of Lebanon then addressed the conference urging those present to do all in their power to bring an end to fighting which, he said, daily "means dozens or hundreds of dead and wounded for the Lebanese people."

A Christian moderate who has the backing of Syria, Mr. Sarkis said he hoped the Arab League's peace-keeping force would "contribute to restoring peace in Lebanon until Lebanon is ready to construct its own army and internal security forces."

He told the conference that the first signs after the ceasefire took effect on Thursday had been "encouraging".

According to the Beirut French-language newspaper L'Orient-Le Jour, President Sarkis is equipped [Continued on page 6]

## Rightists advance in south Lebanon

BEIRUT, Oct. 25 (Agencies). — Lebanese rightwing forces today announced control of nearly all the southern border area with Israel after heavy fighting. The announcement, issued by the "army for the defence of south Lebanon" as an Arab summit opened in Cairo, was not confirmed by Palestinian or Lebanese leftwing sources. But it is generally recognised that rightwing forces have greatly extended their control of the south in the last few days.

The announcement said Lebanese rightwing forces had pushed across the Litani river into the Arqoub, the area in southeast Lebanon in the Mount Hermon foothills in which Palestinian guerrillas had operation bases.

Thousands of Christians and Moslems were meanwhile reported to have fled despite cold weather from the border regions, where leftwing forces were traditionally strong and an anti-Israeli stance often evident.

The exodus was thought to have reached 40,000 and according to the daily paper "Beirut" only 2,000 of 20,000 inhabitants remained at Bini Jbeil.

The Lebanese right has called for the dispersal of Palestinians to Arab countries in proportion to the present population of each country.

According to the rightwing announcement today, a "cordon" controlled by rightwing militia extended along all but 20 kms of the

border with Israel, from the village of Rmeich, 20 kms east of the Mediterranean coast, to the extreme eastern point on the border in the Arqoub.

But rightwing sources in east Beirut added that their forces had not taken physical control of all villages, but of surrounding areas so that the villages themselves were "neutralised".

The "army for the defence of south Lebanon" was set up last Wednesday on the eve of the present ceasefire, which brought "almost total calm" to Beirut last night except for a few shells.

Across the Litani river in the Arqoub, rightwing forces had moved to Majidiyeh, today's announcement said. Rightwing forces last week took over Marjeyoun and Khiam, the region's two most strategically important points.

Highly-placed military sources said here today that Palestinian commandos in Lebanon have received supplies of Soviet-made Sag-

ger missiles, the anti-tank weapon used with devastating effect by Egypt in the 1973 war with Israel.

The sources declined to give details of the supplier country or the number of Saggers in the Palestinian arsenal but said the missiles had been used in fighting against Syrian army forces in the mountains east of Beirut earlier this month. Many of Syria's tank losses there had been caused by Saggers.

Saggers is the NATO code name for a portable missile used by Warsaw Pact forces and several Middle East countries, including Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

In a separate development, moderate Lebanese Christian politician Raymond Edde said Sunday he believes the Central Intelligence Agency is behind the civil war in his country because it is in the American interest for it to continue.

[Continued on page 6]



Lebanese President Elias Sarkis (right) is seen at the Cairo meeting Monday, along with Kuwait's ruler Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah (centre) and Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani of Qatar (far left).

## Kissinger's help may be sought in Geneva conference on Rhodesia

GENEVA, Oct. 25 (R). — Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith suggested today that Dr. Henry Kissinger might have to be asked to come to Geneva to set the record straight on a row plaguing preparations for this week's conference on ending white rule in Rhodesia.

In Washington, officials said the U.S. Secretary of State considered it "highly inappropriate" to travel to the Swiss city in an attempt to resolve the dispute between white and black leaders over his peace plan for the breakaway British colony.

At the heart of the dispute is the so-called "Kissinger package" of Anglo-American proposals for a Rhodesia settlement presented to Mr. Smith by the secretary of state in Pretoria last month.

The Rhodesian leader said he accepted the package in the belief that it was non-negotiable, and that key elements of it had been cleared by Dr. Kissinger with Britain and black Africa's "front line" states.

But Mr. Smith's statement was in stark contrast with the public views of Rhodesia's African nationalists, the "frontline" states, and Britain. All, in widely varying degrees, have questioned his contention that the package could not be changed.

Dr. Kissinger himself has said that the terms could be modified.

"If there are people here who question the agreement I made with Dr. Kissinger, and are suggesting that we were conned into this agreement, then may be we should ask Dr. Kissinger to come along if he has time and set the record straight," Mr. Smith told a hastily-convened press conference.

All five delegations to the British-sponsored conference are now in Geneva. Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the reverend Ndabangini Sithole had completed the lineup

when they flew in from Dar Es Salaam today.

Both said the nationalists were solidly united on the demands they would put to the conference, adding observers would be "shocked" to see the unity displayed by the rival factions.

Speaking at separate press conferences, they took issue with Mr. Smith's stand that the Geneva talks were intended merely to implement the Kissinger package.

If Mr. Smith did not alter his position "we are back to square one," Bishop Muzorewa said. Mr. Sithole said Rhodesia's six-million-strong black majority should shape the country's future -- "not what the Americans or the British or the South Africans decide."

The other delegations in Geneva are led by Mr. Smith, Mr. Joshua Nkomo -- rival to Bishop Muzorewa in claiming leadership of Rhodesia's African National Council (ANC) -- and Mr. Robert Mugabe. Mr. Mugabe contests leadership of the nationalist group ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) with Mr. Sithole.

Meanwhile representatives of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) the four "front line" states and the Commonwealth will take part in the Geneva conference, OAU Ministerial Council Chairman Sir Harold Walter said today.

Sir Harold, said that the British conference Chairman Ivor Richard "sees no objection" to their pre-

sence. He added that Mr. Richard was waiting for clearance from British Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland.

Meanwhile two African nationalist delegations today published a joint statement demanding the release of all political prisoners in Rhodesia.

The demand was made by Joshua Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe to British conference Chairman Ivor Richard during a preparatory meeting early today, the statement said.

The statement said the leaders especially wanted the release of those political prisoners required to take part in the conference.

The statement was believed the first by the "Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe" since it was formed recently by Mr. Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), and Mr. Nkomo's African National Council of Zimbabwe (ANC).

### ANNOUNCEMENT

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IN FULL COMMAND -- Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, waves to one million Peking armymen and people attending the rally at Tien An Men Square Sunday. (AP wirephoto).



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## The last step

It is an old principle of civilisation that talk is no substitute for action, but sometimes mere talk can be made to be seen as a substitute. The Arab summit meeting in Cairo makes us appreciate more vividly than ever the difference between talk and action, and reminds us more dramatically than ever of the destructive and morbid consequences of action in the Lebanese battlefield that has been met, during the past 18 months, by only talk and inaction throughout the Arab World.

The six-sided summit in Riyadh last weekend was positive if belated recognition by key Arab leaders that collective action by the Arab states could indeed help stop short the inexplicable horrors of the Lebanese war. The Riyadh decision to oversee a ceasefire and bolster the Arab League peace-keeping force to 30,000 men has been partially implemented in the field, but has met with a great deal of justified scepticism because it is little more than a band-aid where surgery is required. But band-aids can often stop the bleeding, and if collective Arab action will ensure that this band-aid is applied with sufficient pressure onto the Lebanese wound that is gushing so much blood, then it will be better than nothing at all.

It seems this week that most, but not all, of the fighting in Lebanon has ceased, though the continued clashes in southern Lebanon will likely loom as more important to long-term post-war calm than most of the fighting that has taken place throughout the country. It is a good thing that this matter was added to the Cairo summit's agenda, and the fact that it makes us believe that the summit is determined to tackle the difficult underlying questions that have kept the Lebanese conflict bubbling for so long.

It's very good to talk about Arab unity and the glorious strength of the Arab nation, but to do this and this alone now seems to us more than a little phantasmagoric in view of the turmoil and bloody disputes that rock the Arab World, and nowhere more clearly than in Lebanon. By nature, a summit meeting is a place to talk, and talk in this case is a clear prerequisite to action. But we think there will be many millions of disappointed people throughout the Middle East if the Cairo summit does little beyond talk passionately about the need to unite for action, especially following these past 18 months when the inability of the Arab World to act in unison has been a sad and pristine picture of how little will ever be accomplished by one's ability to talk away the better parts of entire decades.

Arab unity will come about -- if it will or should intrinsically come about -- by the organic grind of history. It will not emerge from a two-day summit of Arab heads of state in Cairo. The Cairo summit is an opportunity to test the real strength of the Arab World's will to act decisively at a point in history when decisive action is more important than decorous rhetoric. It is a rare opportunity that we have, with the heads of state assembled as they are in Cairo this week, and it is with good reason -- exhaustion is one of them -- that the people throughout the Arab World are looking to Cairo today for a sign of kinetic determination from their leaders.

The leaders themselves will decide what form of practical action they can bring to bear upon the Lebanese war. The 30,000-man peace-keeping force alone will not ensure that the ceasefire holds. It may be macabre, but one should keep in mind that a 30,000-man peace-keeping force is going to a battlefield where more than 40,000 people have already died. And by definition, a peace-keeping force keeps the peace, it does not make it.

The primary task before the Cairo summit is to set in motion a process of psychological detente and composure among the parties to the conflict in Lebanon. Mr. Elias Sarkis, the Lebanese president, is not one of these parties, but his role can be crucial, and it is a sign of hope that the Riyadh summit has already recognised the importance of using the stature of his office and the impeccable motives of his person to set forth the process of ending the war. But there is the very real danger that we are heading towards a gruesome tragedy-comedy if all the Cairo summit decides to do is to place 30,000 handcuffed soldiers under the command of President Sarkis, while all around them rages the battle between the various fighting factions in Lebanon who have shown that they will ignore the president of Lebanon and shoot at soldiers of peace sent from the Arab League headquarters in Cairo. We assume that this is appreciated by the Arab leaders in Cairo, and hope that they will see in it the need to mount that last difficult step that leads from the heights of talk to the higher level of unmistakable action.

The action today required of the leaders of the Arab World is the same that has always been required: a coalition of the Arabs to thwart the process by which alien forces of colonialism, imperialism and economic self-interest play havoc with the indigenous forces of Arab nationalism and economic self-determination. This is the larger context within which the Cairo summit meets, and within which it should act.

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Duel with weapons tied together

## U.S. defence official arrives on short visit

AMMAN (JNA). — U.S. Deputy Defence Secretary William Clements arrived here Monday on a one-day visit during which he met with Crown Prince Hassan and the armed forces Commander-in-Chief, Lt-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.

Mr. Clements was the guest of honour at the luncheon given by the commander-in-chief Monday noon at Al Hussein Youth City.

The luncheon was attended by the acting Prime Minister and Minister of Culture and Information, Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh, the chief-of-staff, the air force commander, the U.S. ambassador to Jordan, a number of high ranking officers and U.S. embassy staff and their wives.

Mr. Clements left here Monday afternoon at the end of his short visit, which is the fifth stage of a tour of Arab countries.

He has previously visited Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and North Yemen.

He was seen off at the airport by the commander-in-chief, the U.S. ambassador to Jordan and a number of high ranking officers.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The Jordanian Arabic-language newspapers Monday called on the Arab leaders meeting in Cairo to establish durable solidarity and expressed the hope that the meeting would be successful.

"The eighth Arab summit, which had every justification to convene, also has every chance to succeed," Al Rai says in its editorial. It notes that several heads of state absented themselves for various reasons, but that "those who are directly concerned are already there."

It is true, Al Rai continues, that the Lebanese situation will be the first item on the conference agenda on Monday, but the basic problem is the Zionist presence, occupation and expansion. This will continue to impose itself on the meeting "however we may try to search for minor solutions to the numerous aspects of the problem which confront us as a matter of life or death."

This, the paper adds, ought to have convinced the "absentees" to attend the meeting and spell out their views on the struggle against Israel; for it is unimaginable that they would not find among the other Arab leaders somebody to listen and be convinced.

Al Dustour in turn describes the task of the Cairo summit as difficult but not impossible. It says the

conference is being held amid conditions which put the Arab nation to a severe test before the world and history. The summit faces the most critical problems the Arabs have ever met: How to end the Lebanese crisis, and consequently revive Arab solidarity, which is indispensable for the confrontation of the great conspiracy to destroy the Arab's future and the Palestinian people in the occupied areas.

Al Dustour goes on to urge the Arab leaders to discuss the Lebanese crisis objectively in order to understand the underlying causes and motives "because the war in Lebanon is only a reaction to the shortcoming of not drawing up a decisive Arab stand for reaching a permanent and just solution that would restore to the Palestinian people all their rights, and remove the Zionist domination over them," the paper states.

It says the Cairo summit will serve as a historic turning point if the Arabs are able to resolve their differences and then succeed in putting an end to the "tragedy" in Lebanon.

Al Sha'b says the Cairo summit is faced with many challenges which threaten the very existence of the Arab nation. The paper sums up these challenges as three top priorities:

First, to remove, once and for all, the shadow of inter-Arab strife through the consolidation of the agreement reached at the Riyadh summit meeting earlier this month.

Second, to eliminate the other marginal Arab differences by imitating the Riyadh summit which managed to mend the rift between Cairo and Damascus.

The third priority -- which comes as a natural and logical result of the preceding two -- is for the Arab leaders to devote their time and energy to mobilising all Arab potential to rescue the Arab's future from the threats lurking in the land of Palestine, Al Sha'b concludes.

At Sunday's meetings, the Universities of Jordan, Khartoum, Kuwait, Mosul and Alexandria presented working papers for the conference dealing with the credit hours system and the experiences they had gained in applying this system.

They also agreed at Sunday's meeting that the credit hours system is a better system from the educational and scientific points of view.

The meeting, chaired by the Dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Jordan, Dr.

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## Jordan, Syria, U.S. to conclude air accord

AMMAN (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Air Transport and Civil Aviation Committee will discuss the conclusion of a civil aviation agreement between Jordan and Syria, on one side, and the United States, on the other.

Under the agreement, the two countries will operate regular flights to the American continent, the Director General of the Civil Aviation Department, Sharif Ghazi Rakan, said Monday.

A Jordanian delegation, headed by Sharif Rakan, will fly to Damascus to attend the committee's talks which will discuss the subject there starting Tuesday.

Sharif Rakan is expected to head a civil aviation delegation which will leave for the U.S. Friday to finalise discussions on the agreement. The Jordanian delegation will be accompanied by a similar Syrian team.

## FAO team discusses dryland farming here

AMMAN (JNA). — The role and responsibilities which the Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation (JCO) should assume to develop dryland farming were the subject of discussion Monday between the JCO Director General, Mr. Marwan Doudine, and the delegation from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) here on a visit to study the Development of Dryland Farming Project in the Irbid Governorate.

The JCO efforts and achievements in that field were reviewed, in addition to those related to the project aiming to increase wheat production in the Irbid sector.

The project is being implemented by JCO in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO.

A second development of dryland farming project will be launched by JCO and FAO in the North. It will comprise, in a first stage, an area of 600,000 dunums to be increased later to 1.5 million. The area will be planted with wheat, barley, olives and other fruit trees.

Earlier Monday, the FAO delegation met with the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. Said Ghazzawi, and reviewed with him the details of the dryland farming project in Irbid.

The FAO delegation, which includes five experts, arrived here Sunday and is to make field surveys of the Integrated Development of Dryland Farming Project in the Irbid district to assess the project's locations and study its progress and requirements.

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## Contract for H.S.H.4 road signed

AMMAN (JNA). — An agreement was signed here Sunday between the Ministry of Public Works and a Jordanian contracting company for the construction of a 108-km long, two-lane highway between H.S. and H.4 at a cost of 30 million.

This road is part of the H.S. - Amman - H.S. - Iraq highway which will be financed by Iraq to improve transport between Jordan and Iraq and expand transit trade in the region.

## Postal savings director ends W. German visit

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director General of the Postal Savings Fund, Mr. Abdallah Al Hadeh, returned here Monday at the end of a ten-day familiarisation tour to West Germany.

During the visit, Mr. Al Hadeh toured a number of postal savings institutions and was familiarised himself with its campaigns used there to attract small depositors to increase savings and develop their sites.

## Omani C-in-C ends visit

AMMAN (JNA). — The commander-in-chief of the Sultanate of Oman left here today morning at the end of a five-day visit during which he met his Jordanian counterpart, Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker.

He was seen off at the airport by the chief-of-staff and a number of high ranking officers.

## National Briefs

● AMMAN. — A delegation of the Federation of the Chamber of Commerce left here Sunday Milan to attend the International Industrial Fair which opened on the same day.

● AMMAN. — The Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Bahjat Talhoum, Sunday received the Syrian Ambassador Jordan, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Bagh.

● AMMAN. — A Swiss investment delegation expressed its interest to participate with Jordanian businessmen in the establishment of tourist villages here during the delegation's visit to the Amman Chamber of Industry Sunday.

● AMMAN (JNA). — The Joint Geographic Centre Sunday signed an agreement with a French firm for the preparation of topographic maps of 92 villages help the authorities carry out projects in the areas concerned.



BRITISH HOME EXHIBITION  
PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION HALL  
SHMEISANI — AMMAN  
(Oct. 22-31, 1976)

## SOME FACTS AND FIGURES:

- Over 300 VIPs attended the inauguration and reception party.
- Over 6,000 visitors during opening day.
- More than half the items exhibited were sold during the first two days.
- Large orders have been placed covering various items.
- Particular attention attached to: fitted kitchens, office furniture, telephone seats, suites and the magnetic machine.

BRITISH HOME EXHIBITION welcomes you daily from 10-1 & from 4-7, during the remaining five days.

Orders placed before the closing date of the exhibition will be shipped during November, 1976.

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(Salameh & Taher)

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## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian Jills:

U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
U.K. sterling	549.0	555.0
Iraqi dinar	66.9	67.2
Kuwaiti dinar	1115.0	1155.0
Syrian pound	81.5	81.8
Egyptian pound	450.0	490.0
Lebanese pound	111.1	114.3
U.A.E. dirham	84.0	84.5
Libyan dinar	720.0	750.0
Saudi riyal	95.2	95.5
Swiss franc	136.2	136.0
Italian lira for every 100	38.2	38.4
French franc	66.9	67.2
German mark	137.6	138.0

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مكاتب الاصل



## Jordan Times visits the British Home Exhibition

# Beautiful, sturdy, luxurious; but I can't afford it!

By Zia Ul Qamar

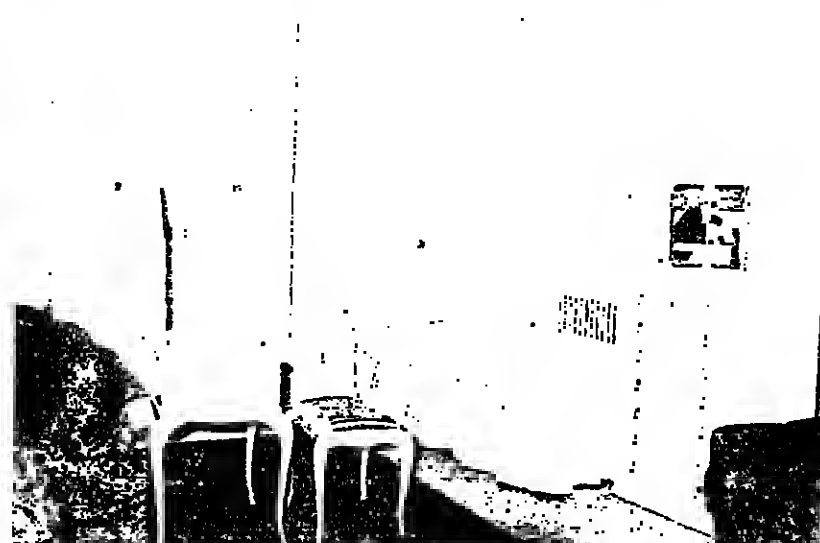
Special to the Jordan Times

The advertisements were impressive, the venue was the dignified professionals' Association Hall in Amman, and the display was elegant. But contrary to the expectations of many, the British Home Exhibition turned out to be a collection of British furniture designed mainly for a grand house, with just a sprinkling of items for an executive in the high-income bracket.

On the opening day H.R.H. the Prince was represented by Rajai Muasher, who performed the opening ceremony. The crowd consisted of those who had been invited, strangely enough, the wives had been overlooked in the invitations, though the men were well aware of the fact

that the key to a man's bank balance lies in the whims of a wife, especially where household equipment and trappings are concerned. Did I detect a shadow of ancient oriental male superiority in this? But surely this display was not for furnishing the domain of an Eastern potentate. It had been advertised to give the impression that it was meant for mere mortals like us.

The furniture on display were classic British designs in lounge suites, solid, practical, well finished and in sombre hues. The heavy articles all had ball bearing casters underneath, easily manoeuvrable to prevent the housewife from having a backache while cleaning nooks and corners. The chairs gave support just where it is desired, the tables were superbly finished and neat in design, the



Luxurious bedroom furniture from the exhibition.

drawers opened at the merest suggestion, and could contain all those items which become an eyesore when lying around. But the piece de resistance was a set of shelves, glassed in smoky gray with a lot of chrome fittings and concealed lighting in each piece. It could take care of everything from a bar and television to your books and favourite mementoes. The kitchen unit was a housewife's dream. I could not think of a kitchen would not be inspired to create a sumptuous meal, especially for the man in her life who had made himself lighter by a couple of thousand dinars to make her dream come true. Everything in this unit was tailored to a uniform and convenient size and height, giving milady the space and ease to flit through the preparations of feast. This set in-

cluded shelves with baize lined drawers for cutlery, a pair of stainless steel sinks, a four-ring gas cooker, all topped with overhead shelves. A separate unit with a deep freeze, a refrigerator and an oven with eye level grill, completed the ensemble.

The bedroom suites were all white, with a variety of colours in upholstery and bed covers, they provided all items of furniture needed for your dressing up and repose. I was especially taken in by the set for a single room, but the cost was rather steep and the dressing table, though very elegant, was a bit flimsy. For a tired man, a master's chair was just the desire of his heart in design and comfort. It had a special feature of being converted into a single bed for an unexpected guest or a 'snooze' in one's study. I wish they could have used more ima-

gination in the design of the upholstery, though.

The inauguration was supplemented by an impressive array of snacks and drinks for the guests in the main hall of the club. Later, in the evening, the exhibition was opened for the public and would remain so for ten days.

Mr. Wasef Tahir, the director of SATRACO, which is the local representative firm of all the British manufacturers participating in this display, was very satisfied with the crowd it is drawing in Amman, and was confident that all orders received now could be delivered in a very short time by trailers coming by road from England. Whereas, Mr. Michael Chapman-Pincher, when interviewed, called this an experiment



Dr. Rajai Muasher inaugurating the exhibition.

by about twenty-five British furniture manufacturers to feel the mood of the people here, and now that there are so many new comers and displaced persons in Amman, wanting to furnish their homes, to try and seize the Jordanian market. He thought the kitchen unit provided more scope and space, but the Jordanians wanted larger cookers and ovens, "because", he said, "people here seem to eat more than we do at home in England." Weren't you forgetting the traditional Arab hospitality, Mr. Chapman-Pincher, while making that statement?

This display of various designs of furniture produced by a group of British manufacturers is an interesting experience for this city where exhibitions are still a novelty being few and far between. But how often can one furnish one's house? It would therefore be more appropriate if a wider variety of British utility products are exhibited to promote trade between Jordan and Britain. As, while they are looking for outlets for their manufactured goods, we are hoping to rely on the sturdiness and dependability of their creations. The British products might not be as chic as one would wish, but they are reliable, of a

controlled quality and worth the money you pay for them (or shall we say used to pay for them?). The current exhibition is a commendable step towards bolstering up the stumbling pound with the aid of Middle Eastern money. But unfortunately the aura of Petro-Dollars does not embrace everyone living in this area. This applies particularly to Jordan, which has many people with not so well padded pockets, so the manufacturers and organisers would be better advised in future to think of these large numbers and to exhibit something within easier reach of everyone. After all those with plenty of money can always order things that they want from countries of their origin. It is the majority of the people in the lower income bracket who require the items of their need brought to their doorsteps.

Finally, I hope this exhibition would provide the much needed challenge to the Jordanian furniture industry, and compel them to speed up their tempo to provide, if not such good quality, then at least comparable stuff at more reasonable prices to their brethren who are already groaning under the heavy burden of increasing costs in day-to-day living, but they are reliable, of a

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Channel 3 & 6:

- 6.00 Quran
- 6.05 Cartoons
- 6.30 Wide world of sports
- 8.00 News in Arabic
- Channel 3:
- 7.30 Arabic series
- 8.30 Arabic series
- 9.15 Reportage

Channel 6:

- 7.30 News in Hebrew
- 7.45 Varieties
- 8.30 Porridge
- 9.10 Play of the week
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.15 Killers (on both channels)

### RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)

- 7.00 Breakfast show
- 7.30 News bulletin
- 7.40 Morning melodies
- 8.00 Sign off
- 12.00 Pop session (Part I)
- 1.00 News summary
- 1.04 Pop session (Part II)
- 2.00 News bulletin
- 2.15 Radio magazine
- 2.30 Guide to musical instruments

- 3.00 Concert hour
- 4.00 Old favourites
- 4.30 Easy listening
- 5.00 Good vibrations
- 5.30 Pop session (Part III)
- 6.00 News summary
- 6.15 Catch the word
- 6.30 Special feature
- 7.00 News bulletin
- 7.10 News reports
- 7.30 Sign off

### EMERGENCIES

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- Dr. W. Barakat " 66982
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- Irbid
- Dr. Z. Abdul Mahdi " 2001
- Dr. Muannas Bayrouti
- Pharmacies:
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- Jerusalem Tel. 21370

- Nassar " 22791
- Madina " 23319
- Zarqa
- Al-Shaker
- Matalkeh
- Irbid
- Ibn Sina
- Taxis:
- Amman
- Tower Tel. 61028
- Nahda " 63003
- Taxina " 44660

### AMMAN AIRPORT

Departures:

- 8.30 Baghdad (IA)
- 9.30 Rome
- 10.15 Kuwait (KAC)
- 11.00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
- 12.00 Agaba (SAA)
- 13.00 Athens (GA)
- 14.45 Damascus (SAA)
- 19.00 Bahrain, Bangkok
- 19.30 Abu Dhabi, Karachi
- 20.00 Jeddah
- 20.30 Cairo
- 22.55 Doha, Muscat
- 01.00 Dubai (Alitalia)

Arrivals:

- 7.30 Bangkok, Bahrain
- 7.30 Baghdad (IA)
- 8.25 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
- 9.30 Kuwait (KAC)
- 11.20 Aleppo, Damascus (SAA)
- 12.10 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
- 14.05 Agaba (SAA)
- 17.20 Frankfurt
- 17.30 Copenhagen, Vienna
- 17.45 Paris
- 18.00 Casablanca, Madrid, Athens
- 18.15 London
- 18.05 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
- 03.00 Rome (Alitalia)
- 03.00 Cairo

### BBC RADIO

GMT

- 04.00 News; Press Review
- 04.30 Intermezzo
- 04.45 Financial News
- 05.00 News; 24 hours
- 05.30 Composer of the Week
- 05.45 The World Today
- 06.00 News; Press Review
- 06.30 Folk and Country, British Style
- 07.00 News; 24 hours
- 07.30 Composer of the Week
- 07.45 The Setting and the Song
- 08.00 News
- 08.15 Short Story
- 08.30 European Courts and Their Music
- 09.00 News; U.K. press review
- 09.15 The World Today
- 09.30 Financial News
- 09.45 I Hear Music
- 10.15 Ulster '76
- 10.30 Dad's Army
- 11.00 News; News about Britain.
- 11.15 Early Days of Flying
- 11.30 Sports International
- 12.00 Radio Newsreel
- 12.15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 12.45 Sports Round-up
- 13.00 News; 24 hours
- 13.30 Milligan Chota Sahib
- 14.15 Report on Religion

- 14.30 East West Home's Best
- 15.00 Radio Newsreel
- 15.15 Outlook
- 16.00 News; Commentary
- 16.15 Galbraith and the King of Diamonds
- 16.45 The World Today
- 17.00 News
- 17.09 Books and Writers
- 17.30 Take One
- 17.45 Sports Round-up
- 18.00 News; News about Britain
- 18.15 Radio Newsreel
- 18.30 Proms
- 19.00 Outlook: News Summary
- 19.42 Stock Market Report
- 19.45 The Ones that Got Away
- 20.00 News; 24 hours
- 20.30 The Pleasure's Yours
- 21.00 Business and Industry
- 21.15 Ulster '76
- 21.30 Farming World
- 22.00 News; The World Today
- 22.25 Financial News
- 22.35 Ragtime Piano
- 22.45 Sports Round-up
- 23.00 News; Commentary
- 23.15 Nature Notebook
- 23.30 Galbraith and the King of Diamonds

# AMMAN MARKETPLACE

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## NEWS ANALYSIS: Forthcoming elections seen as test for budding Egyptian democracy

CAIRO, Oct. 25 (R). — Democracy in Egypt, faces a major test with two-stage elections for the People's Assembly, the country's parliament, starting next week, on Oct. 28.

While a Western-style multi-party system is still a remote prospect, for the first time in more than 20 years groups identifying with the right, left and centre are competing.

Political parties were abolished in Egypt shortly after the 1952 revolution which ousted the monarchy and later led to the creation by President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the political organisation which, after adopting a variety of names, finally settled for the title Arab Socialist (ASU).

Since President Abdel Nasser died in 1970 and Mr. Anwar Sadat took power, the fearsome trappings of a police state have slowly been shed, and by Arab sta-

ndards Egypt is now a liberal society.

Mr. Sadat himself publicly backs this slow relaxation, which has progressed to the stage where criticism of the government's shortcomings can be, and is, publicly aired, though the presidency itself is still largely above criticism. Strikes are banned and the media faithfully echo the government line.

Debate in the People's Assembly has become as lively as in many legislative assemblies in the West. But its members are solidly pro-Sadat, the head of the ASU, this has been shown by their rapturous acclaim when he accepted the assembly's unanimous nomination for a second term as president.

In March this year, three political "platforms" or "forums" were set up within the ASU, roughly representing rightwing, centre and

left points of view. The group contains political parties, but they have not officially registered with the government.

According to the government, the monolithic ASU has been replaced by the formation of three distinct groups, each with its own platform and programme.

The biggest of these is the centrist group led by the late President Nasser's widow, Mrs. Sadat. The group is fielding 450 candidates, 350 of whom are women, in the elections.

The next largest is the rightist group, which is led by Mr. Mustafarid, a former minister of the ASU. It is fielding 150 candidates.

The centrist group, which is led by Mr. Mustafarid, is in general favour of the government's policy of free enterprise and greater political liberalisation.

Some rightists are outspokenly anti-Soviet, more so than the government following the abrogation of the Soviet-Egyptian friendship treaty earlier this year.

An important innovation in the elections has been allowing candidates to stand as independents. Previously, membership of the ASU was a pre-requisite for candidacy.

Of the more than 1,600 candidates, 852 are running as independents. Some of them would normally be attached to one of the three forums but prefer not to be tied to what they regard as a pro-government organisation.

Their numbers alone may prevent the centrists from gaining a majority in the new assembly.

The election campaign which opened on Sept. 15 has produced a crop of incidents, including a

shooting in which a candidate was injured. Pointed questions have been raised about the sources of funds for some of the more lavish spending candidates.

Cartoons in the pro-government press have strongly hinted that some of the independents are financed either by Libya or the Soviet Union.

And according to a survey run by the semi-official Al Ahram newspaper, the campaign is over-personalised. The paper disclosed that 42 per cent of slogans and posters put up by candidates in the Cairo area dealt only with their

personal qualities instead of political issues.

Only nine per cent of campaign materials were solidly political, although some slogans were as simplistic as "I promise to adopt a positive attitude."

Whatever benefits the elections may have for Egyptian democracy, it has been disastrous for the government in constituencies in the western Desert.

Apparently 45,000 goats have been slaughtered by candidates offering them as food to voters in the region.

## Kuwait produces more oil to meet increased demand

KUWAIT, Oct. 25 (R). — Kuwait is producing more oil to meet increased world demand in anticipation of an expected price rise, a leading Kuwaiti official said yesterday.

Assistant Oil Ministry Under-Secretary Mohammad Al Nusseir said Kuwaiti production now topped two million barrels a day.

Dr. Nusseir was quoted by Kuwait newspapers as saying that two companies, British Petroleum (BP) and Gulf Oil of the United States, the major buyers of Kuwaiti oil, had increased the amounts of oil they buy from Kuwait.

But they were not getting a discount for their increased purchases, he added.

The two companies were the original owners of the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) which was taken over by the government in December last year, they were lifting an average of 950,000 barrels a day of Kuwaiti oil between them earlier this year under a long-term agreement. This granted them a discount of 15 U.S. cents a barrel on the going price for Kuwaiti oil.

Kuwait's oil production averaged 1.84 million barrels a day during the first eight months of this year, but rose to 2.25 million barrels in September, according to oil industry estimates.

Kuwaiti officials said earlier that Gulf Oil had asked to increase its purchases from 500,000 barrels a day to 700,000 barrels. Dr. Nusseir's statement is the first to indicate that BP had also increased its purchases above the 450,000 barrels a day agreed upon.

Oil ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are due to meet in December when they are expected to increase prices for the coming year by a minimum of 10 per cent.

Dr. Nusseir said he did not think oil demand would fall after the price increase.

The world economy was recovering and the demand for oil was likely to continue to rise, he added.

He said that OPEC studies showed that whereas world inflation had meant a 20-per cent drop in

the relative value of oil since prices were fixed in September last year, the prices of goods imported by the oil exporting states had risen by 40 per cent in the same period.

## Pravda reports slackening in Soviet growth

MOSCOW, Oct. 25 (R). — Industrial growth in the Soviet Union slowed in the third quarter this year, according to official figures published in the communist daily Pravda yesterday.

They showed that the growth rate for the first nine months 1976 was 4.8 per cent compared with five per cent for the first six months of the year.

Observers here could give an immediate explanation for the slow-down. Last year, when a per cent industrial growth was achieved, production accelerated slightly in the third quarter.

Yesterday's nine-month figure was still above the planned rate of 4.3 per cent, a rate which Western experts were pegged low because Soviet planners expected last year's poor grain harvest to have repercussions on light and food-linked industries.

But parts of heavy industry so saw production slow-down with steel output growth one per cent less than at the end of July and that of steel pipes, two per cent less.

The production of processed meat, apparently still feeling the effects of the 1975 harvest which cut back fodder supplies, was per cent lower than for the same period last year. Figures for the first six months of this year showed an 18 per cent drop over the first half of 1975.

The output of processed food also slowed down this quarter.

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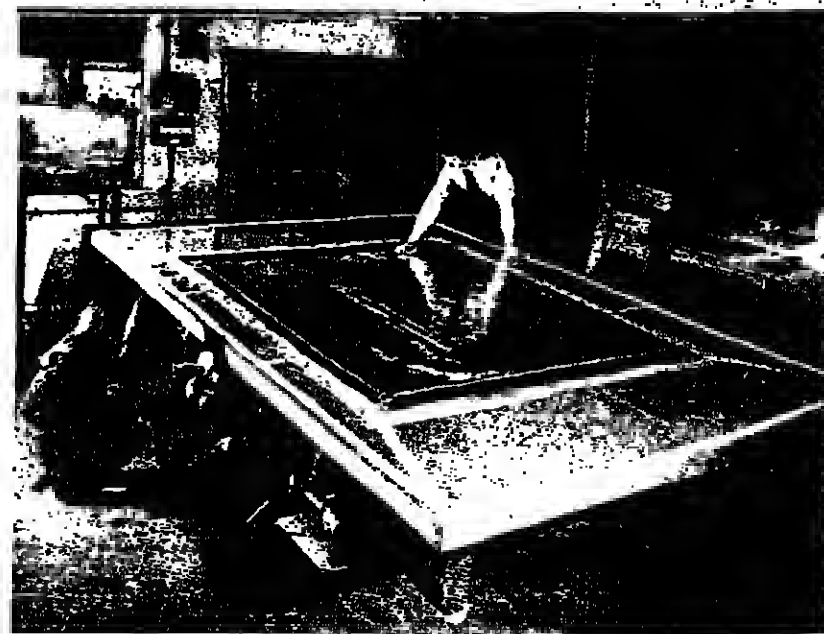
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PT-2D



At Britain's National Gallery in London, a new canvas is attached to the back of an original Old Master painting on a specially designed table, believed to be the largest of its type in the world. Closely controlled heating over the complete surface firmly sets a special adhesive which bonds the new canvas to the old.

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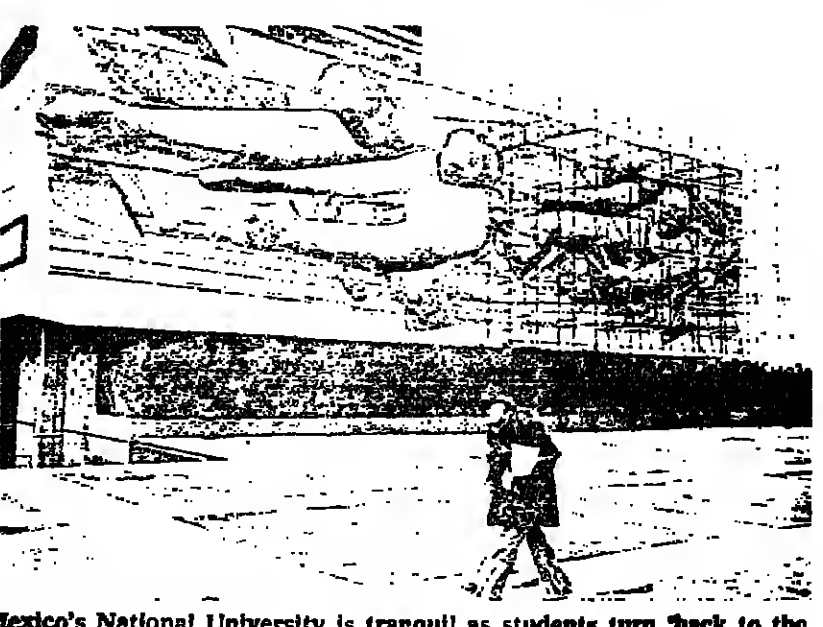
# All quiet on Mexican campus

MEXICO CITY, (CSM). — In a city lit coffee house miles from blaring mariachi bands and tilla-eating masses, a moustached Mexican student named Guillermo cradles his electric bass and whines out a Bob Dylaballad.

Undergraduates from the National University wearing hip-huggers, jeans, suede jackets, and pukka necklaces are wedged around wooden tables and slurp milkshakes and nibble club sandwiches. Many sing along with Guillio. Some just listen to the jokes of Mexican President Luis Echeverria Alvarez. It is Sunday morning, and by 9:30 p.m. the tents have all trickled out to their homework for tomorrow's classes.

The tranquil setting is only a few miles and eight years removed from the downtown Mexico City where in 1968 more than 300 persons were killed by soldiers attempting to crush student riots. These days the real students are the protesters, said Guillermo stepping down from the stage to take a break before his next show.

We go to classes even if we are to cross the barricades. And protesters don't even ask us to strike anymore," said the university law student whose own argument played an active role in the rebellion of the late 1960s. Nobody really pays any attention to those few guys who march around. Change in Mexico can only come from people who know something and that's where we're here to get an education.



Mexico's National University is tranquil as students turn 'back to the books.'

the campus during the 1968 riots. After taking office in 1970 Mr. Echeverria bent over backwards to defuse student hostility towards the government. In the last four years he has tripled the university's budget to more than \$300 million for 1976.

Perhaps more strategically, he opened a liberal line of defence, borrowed many of the socialist slogans from the university movement, and gained substantial support from the academia's left-wing intellectuals.

Unfortunately Mr. Echeverria's budget increases have been unable to keep pace with recent quantum

leaps in student enrollment which has grown from 107,000 to 259,000 in the last five years. While the tuition remains token (less than \$20 a year), most students hold down afternoon and evening jobs to support themselves.

There are no dormitories, so both students and professors commute from Mexico City where rents can run as high as in downtown Manhattan.

Nevertheless, in a country where one-third of the adult population cannot read the daily newspapers, education is at a premium and is one step towards guaranteeing employment in a tough job market.

Mexico's National University on southern fringe of Mexico City shows scars of past protest. But are being slowly covered over by a mood of "back to the books."

Still, however, university janitor-futiles fight a daily battle against political graffiti. Last year university officials were forced to move from the campus a statue of former Mexican President Miguel Aleman, which had been rededicated with explosives.

Though weakened and divided by the government action in 1968 subsequent arrests in 1971, student activity thrives among middle-class marxists in the university's social science schools.

And while university administrators spokesmen say the campus is absolutely quiet, they quiver and reminded that just last March President Echeverria was running the campus with a barrage of bullets and rocks while he was attempting a "dialogue" with students. Mr. Echeverria was the chief official in charge of internal security when the hated "granaderos" (riot troops) were called to

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**

1. Abridgement
7. Tranchised
12. Ballet dance
13. Kava
14. Dullard
15. Savagely
16. Slippery
17. Falcon of the sea
18. Curve
19. Solilo
23. Frenzy
25. Heretofore
29. Necessitate
31. Violet ketone
32. Skiing race courses
34. Vicar probus
37. Yes, in Paris
38. Nymph
41. Reproduce
43. Professional
45. Gowns
46. Poetic pose
47. Treat with odium
48. Mowed
49. Raveled threads
5. Hebrew letter
6. Expressing direction
7. Mohon picture script
8. Pitch
9. Unicorn fish
10. Fingerstalls
11. Openers
15. Grates
17. Syllable of hesitation
20. Island west of Sumatra
21. Having straight simple lines
22. Semester
23. Myself
24. One
26. Bunch of flowers
27. Forward
28. You and I
30. Etal
33. Fifty-one
34. Epitaph
35. Nevada resort
36. Baige
39. Former
40. Fodder
42. Lyric
43. Craggy hill
44. Turkish chamber
46. Provided

Par Time 25 min. AP Newsletters 10-26

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

North South vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ K3  
♥ A864  
♦ A J3  
♠ A 1072

**WEST**  
♦ Q 1085  
♥ 9  
♦ K 642  
♠ J 953

**EAST**  
♦ 2  
♥ K Q J 107  
♦ K  
♠ Q 10985

**SOUTH**  
♦ A J 9764  
♥ 53  
♦ 7  
♠ Q 664

The bidding:  
North East South West  
INT 4 4 4 4  
Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Nine of

It sometimes seems that defenders have a death wish. Instead of sitting back quietly and collecting a sure profit, they become active in the bidding or play and tip their mitts. Consider this hand.

South had intended bidding four spades over his partner's no trump opening bid even without East's interference, and he saw no reason to change his mind when East took advantage of the vulnerability to preempt. Had West learned the virtue of silence, declarer would almost surely have gone down, but he could not resist warning declarer of the bad trump break by doubling. South was quick to take advantage of this knowledge.

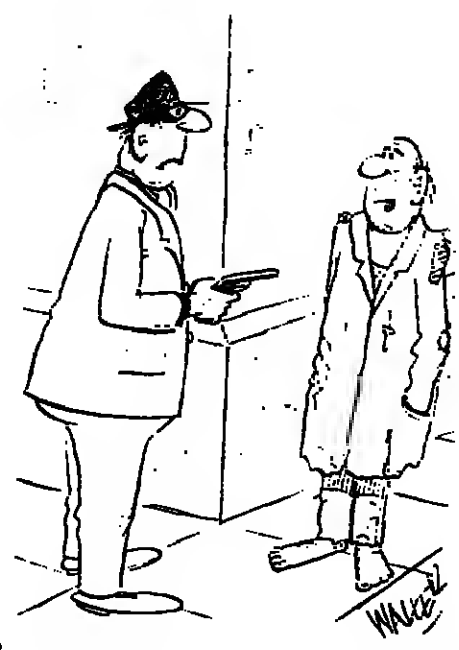
West led his singleton heart, won by dummy's ace. Without the double declarer almost certainly would have started trumps, but now there was no point. Instead, he cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond in his hand. A low trump to the king brought the consolation that West did not hold all the missing trumps. Another diamond ruff was followed by a club to the ace, felling the king. A club to the queen put declarer in his hand to lead a low club towards dummy's ten.

West rose with the jack of clubs and, since a diamond return would give declarer a ruff and sluff and a trump would be into declarer's tenace, he exited with his last club. Declarer now conceded his heart loser and East was on lead with both declarer and West down to nothing but three trumps each.

No matter what East did, declarer was bound to take two of the last three tricks for his contract. Whatever red card East returned, declarer would ruff low. West could overruff, but then he would be forced to concede the last two tricks to declarer's A-J of trumps.

Double your winnings; double your skill with these tips on the right way to use DOUBLES for penalty and for takeout. For a copy, send \$1.50 to "Goren-Doubles," c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 259, Norwood, N.J. 07048. Make checks payable to NEWSPAPERBOOKS.

## LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



ENGLAND  
Waller

"You should visit a psychiatrist, mote."

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**FEACH**

**OMENG**

**NOBBOA**

**LOMUVE**

Print the SURPRISE ANSWER here

Sunday's Jumbles: AGILE PENCE SOOTHE TRICKY  
Answer: What a guy who was addicted to fishing said about his habit—IT'S CATCHING

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## Shah of Iran definite on future oil price increases

TEHRAN, Oct. 25 (R). — The Shah of Iran said in a newspaper interview today that the price of oil would definitely be increased.

The interview, published in the English language newspaper Kayhan International, was given last Wednesday.

"The price of oil will definitely be increased again. Definitely. And the world has already prepared itself for it," the Shah said.

The Shah agreed with estimates that Iran's income from oil this year might be between \$4 to 5 billion higher.

The extra income would be used to cover the country's budget deficit and buy into international firms, like Iran's recent purchase of a 25.01 per cent interest in the West German industrial giant Krupp.

"I must make it abundantly clear that no matter how much extra income we might have in the future we should, nevertheless, economise and cut down on all unnecessary expenses. But if we have anything extra we would invest it in the nation's future, in places like Krupp," the Shah said.

The Shah said the policy of buying into international firms was not only good for Iran's future but also meant that when Iran was accepted as a shareholder, and a major one, then this shows the country also was respected and valued by major industrial states.

Asked why Iran's plan for becoming a shareholder in Occidental,

a U.S. oil firm, fell through, the Iranian leader said the firm had stipulated totally unacceptable conditions.

"These conditions were insulting. They wanted us to buy non-voting right equities. What does that mean. It was as if they wanted to deal with jungle Africans in the heyday of the British empire," the Shah said.

The Shah said the world eventually realise that burning oil and natural gas to produce energy was a "sin".

"This will happen only when oil has reached its true price in the world markets. The price of oil is still too low and as a result others are not inclined to go after other forms of energy".

In the same interview the Shah of Iran said Gen. Brown, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, has apologised for suggesting that he may be thinking of reviving the Persian empire.

The Shah described the remarks by Gen. George Brown as "truly hilarious".

Gen. Brown referred to Iran in an interview with Mr. Ranan Lurie, a political writer for King Features Syndicate.

He noted Iran's military buildup with U.S. weapons but said it was still no match for the Soviet Union.

"Gosh, the programmes the Shah has coming, it just makes you wonder whether he doesn't some day have visions of the Persian empire," Gen. Brown said.



Egyptian President Anwar Sadat (right) and Arab League Secretary General Mahmoud Riad preside over the Arab summit currently being held in Cairo. (AP wirephoto).

## S. African Transkei republic celebrates "independence" virtually without a friend

UMTATA, South Africa, Oct. 25 (R). — The tribal homeland of Transkei receives its independence from South Africa tonight, to be reborn as an outcast republic with hardly an official friend in the world.

Yet there was an air of confidence about this former market town as it prepared to become Africa's 50th capital city.

For today at least, many people pushed their worries into the background, ignoring the threat of an indefinite United Nations ban on recognition and the apparent lack of any official black African presence at the independence celebrations.

But tomorrow, when the green, white and red ochre flag of the new republic flutters from Umtata's public buildings, Transkei will have to face the reality of starting independent life virtually friendless.

Both the Transkei and the South African governments seem convinced that, in spite of the current flurry of recrimination — against Transkei, recognition will come eventually to the coastal region between East London and Durban.

For the moment, however, Transkei is regarded with suspicion by the international community, which sees independence as a fraudulent attempt by South Africa to enshrine its policy of separate racial development.

South African cabinet ministers consider Transkei's independence as a milestone in the apartheid system.

Until today, Transkei has been one of nine tribal homelands, or "bantustans", set up by South Africa with a view to eventual independence. Transkei is for the Xhosa people, Kwa-Zulu for the Zulus, Bophuthatswana for the Tswana...

Prime Minister John Vorster's government claims that this policy is in the interests of the national identity of South Africa's many different black tribes.

But critics regard the policy as a grand design to rid South Africa of its black majority population and thus become a more acceptable democracy.

At least 1.3 million of these are urban workers in South Africa's big cities, most of whom have never been to Transkei. They will be allowed to remain in South Africa — but as "foreign" guest workers.

NEW DELHI, Oct. 25 (R). — Opposition parties boycotted parliament today when it began debating a bill to make major changes in the Indian constitution.

But Law Minister Hari Ram Gokhale insisted that passage of the 59-clause constitutional amendment bill would mark the finest hour in the life of the present parliament.

The four-party People's Front — grouping the opposition Congress Party, the Socialist Party, the Indian People's Party and the Hindu Nationalist Jan Sangh — stayed away from the session.

The Marxist Communist Party walked out of the Lok Sabha (lower house) after protesting against the aims of the bill.

Most critics regard the omnibus legislation as seeking to concentrate power in the hands of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, reduce the jurisdiction of the high courts and arm the president with powers to amend the constitution over parliament's head.

The bill gives parliament wide authority to legislate against organisations and activities deemed "return to the Palestinian resistance its power, vitality and efficiency in the struggle to recover its usurped rights".

Mr. Assad further welcomed his own reconciliation with Mr. Sadat. It would, he said, be a "great mistake" for two countries which sided in the 1973 war against Israel to lose the advantages won in that war.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Saadoun Hamadi objected at the full summit today to a Riyadh decision to place the Arab peace-keeping force under President Sarkis, the source said.

At the same time, Mr. Arafat proposed that none of the countries sending troops for the new force contribute more than 30 per cent of it, another source said.

Mr. Arafat also asked that no veto be considered over the nationality of contingents to the force, and outlined the situation in south Lebanon, from which the rightist groups in Beirut said today they intended to exclude Palestinian forces.

The summit had "taken note" of the Iraqi and Palestinian proposals, sources said.

President Hafez Assad of Syria, the third and last speaker before the closed door session began, echoed Mr. Sadat's call for solutions to what he called the "Lebanese tragedy" which would "restore to Lebanon its unity, territorial integrity, stability and natural role in the Arab World."

The solutions, he said must also

## Sunday Times report sends sterling crashing to new record low on world markets

LONDON, Oct. 25 (R). — Sterling will take up all Britain's remaining credit under normal fund protocols to its lowest-ever level of 1.5740 under a burst of selling in major currency centres.

It later recovered some ground to 1.5900 dollars, but dealers said the market remained nervous and confused.

The latest fall — the sharpest experienced in any recent sterling crisis — followed a Sunday Times report that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) wants to see the currency depreciate further to help British exports.

Strenuous denials by the IMF, U.S. Treasury Secretary William Simon, and the British authorities failed to stop the rush to sell sterling.

The British pound today plummeted against several major currencies, touching record lows against the West German mark and the French and Belgian francs.

At noon today, sterling's depreciation against other major currencies since December 1971 stood at a record 47.8 per cent.

The Sunday Times article alleged that the IMF and the United States had agreed that sterling should be allowed to depreciate to 1.50 dollars.

The report said this would be a condition for the \$3.9 billion standby credit Britain is seeking from the IMF to replenish its dwindling reserves.

A British Treasury spokesman today denied the report as being "totally without foundation".

Mr. Simon yesterday said it was "irresponsible and patently untrue" that the IMF and the Treasury had already agreed on detailed conditions for the IMF loan, which

But the author of the Sunday Times report, Economics Editor Malcolm Crawford, said today: "I stand by what I wrote."

Dealers said large amounts of sterling were on offer today, but many deals were not completed because rates collapsed so quickly.

They said there was a short-lived attempt by the Bank of England to hold sterling at just over 1.62 dollars, but apart from that the central bank refrained from intervention.

Sterling's weakness was compounded by heavy demand for West German marks, and in Frankfurt the pound hit a new record low of 3.90 marks. This was nearly 10 pence down on last Friday.

The mark was buoyed by market expectations that West German trade figures for September to be announced shortly will show a big surplus.

The report of secret conditions set by the IMF was firmly denied by Denis Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer before the House of Commons this afternoon.

Mr. Healey was greeted by shouts of "resign" from opposition benches as he arrived in the house. He told members of parliament that the terms for the requested \$3.9 billion drawing would not be set until after a visit to Britain by an IMF mission next month.

Mr. Healey categorically affirmed that the only cause for sterling's dramatic plunge was the Sunday Times story.

He ran into objections from Conservative and Liberal MPs.

Joan Pardo, the Liberal spokesman on economic matters, said a remark by American Nobel prize winning economist Milton Friedman that Britain was "on the verge of collapse", reported this weekend would have produced the same effect even if the Sunday Times had not written one word about the terms likely to be imposed by the monetary fund.

Professor Friedman criticized excessive public spending in Britain in a weekend interview.

Mr. Healey said he agreed that it was the government's "duty to adopt policies to bring external trade into balance and I hope it will have the support of all Labour MPS in any measures necessary for this."

## Siberia forest fire reported controlled

MOSCOW, Oct. 25 (AFP). — Fire fighters in eastern Siberia are beginning to win the battle against massive forest blazes which have destroyed industrial centres and lines of communication over the past week, the Soviet Party daily Pravda reported today.

It said the fires stretched along an 800 kms wide belt from the Birodizhan region, throughout the valley of the Amu River on the Chinese border, then northeast to Komsomolsk.

Pravda did not specify how many fires there were, though it said that the most important had been put out. Neither did it say how many casualties there had been among those working round the clock to fight the blazes, nor how long the fires had been raging.

But it said that a hurricane last Monday, which sent winds ripping through the area at 30 to 40 m. a second, fuelled the flames by tearing up trees and roofing materials in many places. Pravda said, fire fighters working under emergency committees had checked the advance of the blazes and saved material possessions, though this seems to be exceptional.

The trade union newspaper Troud yesterday reported that many villages had been lost and bridges and lines of communications wiped out in the Khabarovsk region east of the River Plain. Troud said trains were again running in the area.

It went on to blame the fires on careless hunters and people living in the forests (Taiga) adding that some of the guilty had already been tried.

## Italian railwaymen, workers protest against price rises

ROME, Oct. 25 (R). — Italians face chaos on the railways tonight when a one-day strike begins against government austerity measures.

The strike illustrates the apparent absence yet of consensus among politicians and unions on solving Italy's economic crisis.

The railwaymen join other workers around the country in protesting against price rises of 25 per cent telephone services and 10 per cent for rail fares.

The increases are part of government plans to curb an inflation rate of nearly 20 per cent and prop up the falling lira, which has slumped from 686 to the dollar in January to 862 to the dollar this morning.

The lira strengthened slightly today but only because of an emergency seven per cent tax on foreign currency purchases which has brought the market almost to a standstill.

First signs of a consensus on coping with the crisis came over the weekend with reports of meetings between the three big union

federation — led by the Communists, Christian Democrats and Socialists — about Italy's future.

But the crucial issue still undecided today was whether the unions would accept wage restraint, and change a system under which wages are automatically raised every three months in line with increases in the cost of living.

Under the present system price rises imposed by the government last week — aimed at reducing state deficits and transferring money to more productive uses — will only mean automatically increased wages later on and so will pump more money into the consumer market.

Reliable sources said Foreign Trade Minister Rinaldo Ossola wanted to freeze the automatic increases for six months but was told it was unacceptable to the unions.

As a result Signor Ossola told a worried meeting of foreign exchange dealers over the weekend that the system should be amended to cut back the percentage increase.

Christian Democrat Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, meanwhile, prepared for a meeting tomorrow in brief union leaders on his plans to boost the country's sagging agricultural output and to pump investments into the impoverished south.

Still awaited is a plan by Signor Andreotti to renovate and modernise Italian industry as a whole.

## Rightist advances

[Continued from page 1] Mr. Edde also told Newsweek international in an interview that the latest truce in Lebanon had no more chance to last than the many previous ceasefires.

"If you want my opinion, I believe that the CIA is behind the war. But I can't offer you documentary proof. You will have to wait for a new Watergate or Pentagon Papers scandal to provide that," Mr. Edde said.

"We have had 57 ceasefires here already... and they have all broken down. It is just too easy to restart the fighting here."

## Kuwaiti teachers union executive dissolved

KUWAIT, Oct. 25 (R). — The Kuwaiti government has dismissed the executive of the Kuwaiti teachers association after accusing it of dabbling in politics, Kuwaiti newspapers reported today.

The Minister for Labour and Social Affairs Sheikh Salim Al Sabah who yesterday ordered the dissolution of the executive, has appointed an 11-member caretaker board to run the association for nine years.

According to one newspaper the minister said the board was disbanded because it issued a statement on Sept. 18 on political matters in which it was not legally allowed to deal.

The statement criticised the government's August dissolution of the Kuwaiti national assembly and was signed by several Kuwaiti associations.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market moved lower Monday over a fairly broad front following sterling's weakness, bear technicalities and speculation that the government may bring forward spending cuts saw shares above the day's lows, dealers said. Overall trading was light but at 1500 the F.T. index was off 8.8 at 280.9.

Government bonds averaged 3/8 point falls while leading issues fell as much as 10p.

Overseas issues moved higher helped by the rise of around ten points in the investment dollar premium.

Fisons ended 10p down while falls of 6p to 9p were seen in Beecham, Glaxo, ICI, Bats, Tate and Lyle, Hawker Siddeley, Shell, and Unilever. Home banks declined between 5p and 9p but overseas banks gained.

Gold shares and Australians were narrowly higher. Hutchison Intl finished a penny higher after news that it is paving talks with Wheelock Marden about a possible offer.